



You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love**

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Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



April 4, 2021
*The Resurrection of
Our Lord: Easter Day*

Gathering

✠INTRODUCTION

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

✠THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water is poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

P We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters where you make us new, leading us from death to life, from tears to joy. We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us in the grace-filled waters of rebirth, like rains to our thirsting earth, like streams that revive our souls, like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear. Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness. Send us companions on our journey as we share your life. Make us one, risen Christ. Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.

To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠HYMN OF REFLECTION – Be Not Afraid (ELW #388)

Be not afraid, sing out for joy!

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Be not afraid, sing out for joy!

Christ is risen, alleluia!

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community. Music: Jacques Berthier.

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✠ GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Word

✠ FIRST LESSON – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The core of the Christian faith and Paul's preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you — unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them — though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ GOSPEL – Mark 16:1-8

The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.

P The Holy Gospel, according to Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

✠ SERMON

✠ HYMN OF THE DAY – O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

(ELW #386) *Verses 1-3, 9*

- Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | O sons and daughters, let us sing
with heav'nly hosts to Christ our
king:
today the grave has lost its sting!
Alleluia! | 3 | An angel clad in white they see,
who sits and speaks unto the three,
"Your Lord will go to Galilee."
Alleluia! |
| 2 | That Easter morn, at break of day,
the faithful women went their way
to seek the tomb where Jesus lay.
Alleluia! | 9 | On this most holy day of days,
be laud and jubilee and praise:
to God your hearts and voices raise.
Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. |

✠PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Let us rejoice and be glad on this festival of Christ's resurrection, offering our prayers to God for all in any need, concluding each petition with the Easter response "Christ is risen indeed."

A brief silence.

P We praise you for the gift of the global church and for all the newly baptized around the world. And we pray that you send the Spirit of the resurrection into every assembly of the baptized. Give us joy in one another and hope in the face of sorrow, for Christ is risen:

C Christ is risen indeed.

P We praise you for the wondrous earth that you continuously create and for the myriad plants and animals that show forth your glory. And we pray for everything in nature that is endangered, from the undersea coral to the elephants of Africa. Form us into caretakers who protect your lands and seas, for Christ is risen:

C Christ is risen indeed.

P We praise you for the times of peace and freedom that you have granted to us. And we pray for everyone who suffers from yet more gun violence, from prejudice and injustice, from oppression and poverty. Bring an end to wars and tyrannical rule throughout the world, for Christ is risen:

C Christ is risen indeed.

P We praise you for the food that you provide and for the promise of an everlasting feast for all peoples. And we pray for everyone who is hungry, for residents in refugee camps, for teenage migrants, for the people who live on our streets, that they all may be fed. Show us how to meet the needs of the hungry in our world, for Christ is risen:

C Christ is risen indeed.

P We praise you for a lessening of the pandemic and for the availability of vaccines. And we pray for everyone who is still contracting the coronavirus, for healthcare workers, and for all who have lost family, friends, and livelihood. Restore health throughout the world, for Christ is risen:

C Christ is risen indeed.

P We praise you for each day of health and well-being. And we pray for everyone who suffers from illness of any kind, for those who today will die, and especially for those we name here before you, silently or aloud: . . . Accompany all who face troubles and sorrows, for Christ is risen:

C Christ is risen indeed.

P We praise you for your words to Isaiah, to Paul and Peter, to Mary Magdalene and the women at the tomb, and to each one of us. Receive now, we pray, our silent prayers, for Christ is risen:

C Christ is risen indeed.

P We praise you for the presence of the risen Christ among us and for the witness of all who have died in the faith, especially Benedict the African. And we pray that at the end of all things you raise us with all the saints to rejoice in your presence forever, for Christ is risen:

C Christ is risen indeed.

P In thanksgiving for the new life of the resurrection, we raise these prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

✠PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

Meal

✠GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

✠ **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Setting 4, ELW p. 153)**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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✠ Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me."

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we + who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light. Bless this meal, and grace our table with your presence.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

✠ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

✠ COMMUNION HYMN – In the Singing (ELW #466)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | In the singing, in the silence,
in the hands expectant, open,
in the blessing, in the breaking,
in your presence at this table, | 2 | In the question, in the answer,
in the moment of acceptance,
in the heart's cry, in the healing,
in the circle of your people, <i>Refrain</i> |
|---|--|---|--|

Refrain

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the wine of grace;
Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ,
be the bread of peace.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray. Music: Carlton R. Young.

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✠ BLESSING

P May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ **SENDING HYMN – Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!**
(ELW #369)

- 1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!
- 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!
- 3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
when contending death and life, Alleluia!
met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!
- 4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
all your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

✠ **DISMISSAL**

- P** You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
- C** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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